

CLAIMS

Please amend the following claims:

1.- 36. (Cancelled)

37. (currently amended) A method for data entry and display, comprising:

providing a data entry and display device comprising a keypad including an arrangement of individual keys and a display having a display field that is distinctly provided outside of the arrangement of individual keys, the arrangement of individual keys including a plurality of hard keys and a plurality of soft keys that are covering a portion of the display that is provided at least partially within the arrangement of individual keys, each said hard key having a primary alphanumeric symbol and a set of secondary alphanumeric symbols visibly associated therewith;

actuating a first said hard key; and

displaying on said plurality of soft keys by use of the display portion covered by the plurality of soft keys a first said set of said secondary alphanumeric symbols from said actuated first said hard key.

38. (Original) The method of claim 37, further comprising selecting one of said alphanumeric symbols associated with said actuated first said hard key.

39. (Previously presented) The method of claim 38, wherein said selecting comprises:

actuating a selected one of said soft keys to select one of said first set of secondary alphanumeric symbols; and

displaying said selected one of said first set of secondary alphanumeric symbols on a display field.

40. (Previously presented) The method of claim 39, further comprising actuating a second said hard key; and

displaying on said plurality of soft keys a second set of said secondary alphanumeric symbols from said actuated second said hard key.

41. (Original) The method of claim 40, further comprising selecting one of said alphanumeric symbols associated with said actuated second said hard key.

42. (Previously presented) The method of claim 41, wherein said selecting comprises:

actuating a selected one of said soft keys to select one of said second set of secondary alphanumeric symbols; and

displaying said selected one of said second set of secondary alphanumeric symbols on a display field.

43. (Previously presented) The method of claim 42, further comprising actuating an nth said hard key; and

displaying an nth set of said secondary alphanumeric symbols from said actuated nth said hard key in association with said soft keys.

44. (Original) The method of claim 43, further comprising selecting one of said alphanumeric symbols associated with said actuated nth said hard key.

45. (Previously presented) The method of claim 44, wherein said selecting comprises:

actuating a selected one of said soft keys to select one of said nth set of secondary alphanumeric symbols; and

displaying said selected one of said nth set of secondary alphanumeric symbols on a display field.

46. (New) The method of claim 37, wherein the keypad comprises a display onto which the plurality of hard keys and the plurality of soft keys are superimposed so that the hard keys are visibly associated with the primary alphanumeric symbols and set of

secondary alphanumeric symbols and so that the secondary alphanumeric symbols of a hard key can be display on the plurality of soft keys.

47. (New) A data entry and display device comprising a keypad including an arrangement of individual keys and a display having a display field that is distinctly provided outside of the arrangement of individual keys, the arrangement of individual keys including a plurality of hard keys and a plurality of soft keys that are covering a portion of the display that is provided at least partially within the arrangement of individual keys, each said hard key having a primary alphanumeric symbol and a set of secondary alphanumeric symbols visibly associated therewith, wherein the data entry and display device further comprises a control system so that by actuating a first said hard key, the set of secondary alphanumeric symbols of that hard key will be displayed selectively on the plurality of soft keys by use of the display portion that is covered by the plurality of soft keys.

48. (New) The device of claim 47, wherein the keypad comprises a display onto which the plurality of hard keys and the plurality of soft keys are superimposed so that the hard keys are visibly associated with the primary alphanumeric symbols and set of secondary alphanumeric symbols and so that the secondary alphanumeric symbols of a hard key can be display on the plurality of soft keys.